

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 PC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 NIC-01 OPR-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SY-10 M-03 A-01

SIL-01 LAB-06 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 RSR-01 /153 W

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P R 071515 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4232

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 1951

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: CI, PINT, PINS

SUBJECT: STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED IN SANTIAGO

1. SUMMARY. GOVT DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY AFTERNOON MAY 5 FOR SANTIAGO PROVINCE, IN WAKE OF SHOOTING INCIDENT PREVIOUS EVENING IN WHICH ONE MEMBER OF EXTREME RIGHT PATRIA Y LIBERTAD WAS KILLED AND FOUR OTHERS WOUNDED. END SUMMARY.

2. ALLEGING " A CLIMATE OF SOCIAL VIOLENCE IN THE PROVINCE," PRES ALLENDE DECREED STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR SANTIAGO PROVINCE LATE AFTERNOON MAY 5. DECREE PLACES ALL CIVIL POLICE FUNCTIONS UNDER BRIGGEN MARIO SEPULVEDA SQUELLA, COMMANDER OF SANTIAGO GARRISON. DECREE ALSO BANS PUBLIC RALLIES, MARCHES, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SIMILAR DEMONSTRATIONS. FIRST CASUALTY OF THIS PROHIBITION WAS RALLY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 6 LED BY MAYORS OF FOUR BARRIO ALTO MUNICIPALITIES TO PROTEST GOVT FOOD DISTRIBUTION POLICIES AND ROLE OF PRICE BOARDS (JAP). MAYORS ANNOUNCED RALLY WILL BE HELD AT

LATER DATE. PDC RALLY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 9 MAY ALSO BE CANCELLED.

3. MEASURE TAKEN LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER SERIOUS SHOOTING INCIDENT DOWNTOWN SANTIAGO ABOUT 7:00 PM MAY 4 LEFT ONE MEMBER OF PATRIA Y LIBERTAD DEAD AND FOUR OTHERS WOUNDED, ONE SERIOUSLY. DEAD MAN IDENTIFIED IN OPPOSITION PRESS AND BY PATRIA Y LIBERTAD BUT NOT BY GOVT AS MARIO AGUILAR, 24, AN OFFICER OF PATRIA Y LIBERTAD' S SANTIAGO LOCAL ORGANIZATION. SERIOUSLY HURT WITH SIX OR SEVEN BULLET WOUNDS WAS ROBERTO ERNESTO MILLER (OR MULLER) SHAEZAR, 25, HEAD OF PATRIA Y LIBERTAD' S YOUTH WING. INCIDENT OCCURRED AS PATRIA Y LIBERTAD UNIT LED BY MILLER MARCHED DOWN BUSY DOWNTOWN STREET SHOUTING PATRIA Y LIBERTAD SLOGANS. GROUP OF WHAT UNDERSEC INTERIOR DANIEL VERGARA TERMED " UNIDENTIFIED OPPONENTS" CONFRONTED MARCHERS AND SOME 20-30 SHOTS FIRED, REPORTEDLY INCLUDING BY SUBMACHINE GUN. SOME WITNESSES CLAIM SOME SHOTS WERE FIRED FROM A VEHICLE. AGUILAR WAS APPARENTLY KILLED WHEN HE PURSUED ONE " OPPONENT" INTO NEARBY BUILDING WHO TURNED ON AGUILAR AND FIRED POINT- BLANK. OPPOSITION PRESS CLAIMED " OPPONETS" WERE REALLY MIR MEMBERS AUGMENTED BY SOME SOCIALISTS AND OTHER UP MEMBERS. VERGARA AND MIR SEPARATELY AND CATEGORICALLY DENIED ANY UP OR MIR MEMBERS WERE INVOLVED. PDC STATEMENT BLAMED GOVT AND UP FOR CREATING " CLIMATE OF VIOLENCE." PATRIA Y LIBERTAD ISSUED ANGRY STATEMENT PUTTING FULL BLAME ON GOVT, CLAIMING UP " PROFESSIONAL ASSASSINS" HAD STAGED " PREMEDITATED AMBUSH" AGAINST UNARMED GROUP TO KILL MILLER AND OTHER PATRIA Y LIBERTAD LEADERS. WARNING THAT " WE WILL NOT TOLERATE FURTHER CRIMINAL ATTACKS," PATRIA Y LIBERTAD SAID THAT FROM NOW ON " WE WILL DEFEND OURSELVES THROUGH OUR OWN MEANS." MEANWHILE IN CONCEPCION MAY 5, POLICE USING TEAR GAS AND WATER CANNONS DISPERSED SEVERAL THOUSAND DEMONSTRATORS LED BY PATRIA Y LIBERTAD IN PROTEST AGAINST SANTIAGO VIOLENCE. FUNERAL FOR AGUILAR MAY 6, TOOK PLACE WITHOUT INCIDENT, WITH LARGE CROWDS IN ATTENDANCE INCLUDING MARCHES BY NATIONAL PARTY AND DEMOCRATIC RADICAL YOUTH.

4. PRO- GOVT PRESS LED BY OFFICIAL LA NACION SIMULTANEOUSLY REPORTED DETENTION OF TWO PATRIA Y LIBERTAD MEMBERS IN MENDOZA, ARGENTINA, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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WHERE THEY ALLEGEDLY ARRIVED IN LIGHT PLANE FROM BUENOS AIRES. ONE OF THESE PERSONS ACCORDING TO LA NACION WAS ROBERTO THIEME, SECOND RANKING PATRIA Y LIBERTAD LEADER WHO HAD BEEN REPORTED MISSING AND PRESUMED DEAD TWO MONTHS AGO WHEN HIS LIGHT PLANE WAS " LOST" ON A FLIGHT TO CONCEPCION. LA NACION CLAIMED THAT PATRIA Y LIBERTAD WAS SMUGGLING LARGE QUANTITIES OF " MACHINE GUNS, BAZOOKAS, AND DOLLARS" FROM ARGENTINA, THAT THIEME HEADED OPERATION, AND THAT PLANE IN MENDOZA WAS ONE HE WAS PILOTING WHEN REPORTED MISSING. LA NACION PROTESTED " CYNICISM" OF PATRIA Y LIBERTAD CHIEF PABLO RODRIQUEZ WHO, KNOWING THIEME WAS ALIVE, NEVERTHELESS HELD STREET DEMONSTRATIONS AND CHURCH SERVICES IN HIS HONOR. FURTHER, CHARGED NACION, THIEME' S MISSION WAS TO

COMMIT A HIGH- LEVEL ASSASSINATION WITHOUT FEAR OF DETECTION. HOWEVER, NACION CLAIMED, THIEME'S USE OF PATRIA Y LIBERTAD FUNDS HAD ENGENDERED RESENTMENT WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION AND, " LIKE IN THE MAFIA," THIS GROUP WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAY 4 SHOOTING SINCE MILLER IS THIEME'S STEPBROTHER AND VAD SHARED IN HIS FUNDS. COMMENTING ON LA NACION REPORT, PATRIA Y LIBERTAD CHIEF PABLO RODRIQUEZ TERMED IT A " RED HERRING" DESIGNED TO DISTRACT PUBLIC ATTENTION FROM " GOVT- INSPIRED VIOLENCE." OTHER PRESS ARTICLES TEND TO CONFIRM THAT ONE OF DETAINED CHILEANS IN MENDOZA IS THIEME.

5. EARLIER MAY 4, DOWNTOWN CLASHES BETWEEN DEMONSTRATORS BACKING RIGHTWING NEWSMAN JAIME VALDES INJURED IN RIOTING A WEEK EARLIER (SANTIAGO 1835) AND UP PARTISANS DISPERSED BY POLICE WATER CANNONS. IN OTHER EVENTS, WORKERS WHO SEIZED MINPUBLIC WORKS BUILDING AND BLOCKED MAJOR SANTIAGO HIGHWAY FOR SECOND TIME IN TEN DAYS (SANTIAGO 1770) YIELDED AFTER GOVT APPOINTED COMMITTEE TO STUDY THEIR DEMANDS. STRIKES OF SANTIAGO PRIVATE BUS LINES AND GAS STATION ATTENDANTS (SANTIAGO 1833 AND 1942) ENDED, BUT MOST OF EL TENIENTE COPPER WORKERS CONTINUED ON STRIKE. MILITARY AUTHORITIES WERE REPORTEDLY INVESTIGATING SOURCE OF " ARSENAL" CONTAINING AT LEAST 50 " PROFESSIONALLY MADE" BOMBS DISCOVERED IN SANTIAGO SLUM AREA; THREE FOREIGN WOMEN, AN ARGENTINE, A YUGOSLAV, AND A VENEZUELAN, ARE REPORTEDLY INVOLVED. PDC LA PRENSA CLAIMED MIR IS ALSO INVOLVED.

6. COMMENT. LATEST SHOOTING INCIDENT AND STATE OF EMERGENCY COME ON HEELS OF COMMUNIST WORKER'S DEATH A WEEK EARLIER (SANTIAGO 1835), SERIOUS DISTURBANCES IN SANTIAGO APR 26 (SANTIAGO 1832), AND SEVERAL SERIOUS CLASHES IN PROVINCIAL CITIES. THERE
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ARE REPORTS THAT MILITARY LEADERS ARE GROWING INCREASINGLY UNEASY ABOUT UPSURGE OF STREET FIGHTING. TOP MILITARY COMMANDERS AS WELL AS SENIOR POLICE OFFICIALS MET BEHIND CLOSED DOORS MAY 3 WITH PRES ALLENDE, AND THERE IS SPECULATION THAT THEY URGED HIM TO TAKE MORE EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO HALT THE VIOLENCE. MEANWHILE, NEWS REPORTS TODAY FROM WASHINGTON INDICATE VISITING ARMY CINC GENERAL CARLOS PRATS REFERRED TO EXTREMISTS' ALLEGED ATTEMPTS TO CREATE CLIMATE FOR A MILITARY COUP.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANTIA01951
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730560/abqcehw1.tel
Line Count: 153
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <05-Feb-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971212
Subject: STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED IN SANTIAGO
TAGS: PINS, CI, PINT
To: STATE
ASUNCION INFO BRASILIA
BUENOS AIRES
LA PAZ
LIMA
MONTEVIDEO
USCINCSO

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005